

President Bush. And this year, she worked closely with the gentleman from California, Mr. McKEON, on legislation to reduce federal red tape in higher education.

I'm truly disappointed we won't have the chance to continue this partnership with PATSY. We'll never know exactly where it might have led, or the things that might have been accomplished. But I do know one thing. I'm very grateful for the chance to have served with her, and to have worked alongside her to achieve some of the goals for which she strived.

PATSY MINK's passing is a significant loss for our committee, the people of Hawaii, and the people of the United States. I offer my sincere condolences to her family and constituents. She will be greatly missed.

HOUSES OF WORSHIP POLITICAL SPEECH PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2002

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce my intention to vote against H.R. 2357, the Houses of Worship Political Speech Protection Act.

I firmly support the base principle of this legislation—reinforcing the right of freedom of speech to America's religious leaders without fear of losing their tax-exempt status. However, I cannot support this legislation because it does not address the issue of political contributions and fundraising by or within the church.

Under this bill churches can maintain their tax exempt status while engaging in political activity such as endorsements, issue advertisements, and get-out-the-vote efforts. Most egregiously, under this bill churches will become involved with partisan fundraising while allowing for tax deductible and tax-exempt status for the church and congregation.

The abuse by political parties and partisan groups and individuals of so many American institutions when it comes to political activity should not be allowed to cross the doorway into America's houses of worship. Politics is not the purpose of our places of worship.

I have been informed that 77 percent of clergy and over two-dozen religious groups have announced their opposition to this bill.

While I do believe that the primary intentions of the bill were well meant, I cannot support it in this form.

INDIAN COMPANIES SELLING MILITARY MATERIALS TO IRAQ

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 2, 2002

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, just as we are about to go to war with Iraq, supposedly democratic India is propping up that brutal dictatorship.

According to an article in the September 25 issue of the *Times of India* by Rashmee Z. Ahmed, Iraq possesses some of the deadliest

weapons of mass destructions and missile infrastructures thanks to the illicit help of Indian companies. One such company, NEC Engineers Private Limited, has "extensive links in Iraq," according to the article. Although such transactions violate India's export control laws, they are apparently taking place with a wink and a nod from the Indian government. Earlier I exposed India's oil transactions with Iraq, which violates UN sanctions.

In spite of this, according to the September 18 issue of the *Times of India*, the United States and India are conducting joint naval exercises.

On January 2, the *Washington Times* exposed the fact that India is sponsoring cross-border terrorism in the province of Sindh in Pakistan. India's leading newsmagazine, *India Today*, reported that India created the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), which the United States government calls a "terrorist organization." The U.S. State Department reported that the Indian government paid 41,000 cash bounties to police officers for killing Sikhs. According to the Indian newspaper *Hitavada*, the late governor of Punjab, Surendra Nath, received \$1.5 billion from the Indian government to foment terrorism in Punjab and Kashmir. The book *Soft Target* shows that the Indian government blew up its own airliner in 1985 to blame Sikhs. This has been discussed many times.

If India is practicing and sponsoring terrorism and helping to build Saddam Hussein's war machine, why are we conducting joint naval exercises with India? Isn't this like conducting joint exercises with the enemy? I call on the Defense Department to call off these exercises.

Mr. Speaker, we can help bring freedom to South Asia and end India's flirtation with terrorist enemies of the United States. The time has come to impose sanctions on India, cut off its aid, and openly declare our support for self-determination for all the people of the subcontinent. This is the best way to help see to it that everyone in that troubled region can live in freedom, dignity, prosperity, stability, and peace.

I am inserting the articles from the *Times of India* into the RECORD.

[From the Times of India, Sept. 25, 2002]

INDIAN FIRMS ARMING IRAQ, SAYS UK

(By Rashmee Z. Ahmed)

LONDON: Britain has alleged that Saddam Hussein's Iraq is able and willing to deploy some of its deadliest weapons of mass destruction in under one hour from the order being given and that it possesses missile infrastructure produced with the illicit help of Indian companies.

The British claims of Indian involvement are contained in a 55-page dossier controversially and uniquely published by Tony Blair on Tuesday on the basis of what he called "unprecedented and secret" intelligence information.

The dossier, received by largely skeptical political, press and public opinion here, tries to make a case for a Gulf War II-type operation to disarm Saddam and "regime change". Repeating US and UK claims that Baghdad continues to improve its missile capability, the dossier names names when it comes to alleged Indian support for Iraqi missile production.

The document, which only obliquely blames "Africa" for supplying uranium to Saddam's secret nuclear weapons programme, pinpoints India as part of the sup-

ply chain for banned propellant chemicals destined for ballistic missiles. One of these, ammonium perchlorate, the dossier says, was "illicitly" provided by an Indian company, NEC Engineers Private Limited, which had "extensive links in Iraq", particularly to its al-Mamoun missile production plant and Fallujah 2 chlorine plant.

Analysts added that in an intriguing insight, the dossier appeared to indicate that much of this had been known to New Delhi for some time.

"(The) Indian authorities recently suspended its (the company's) export license" after "an extensive investigation", the dossier says, "although other individuals and companies are still illicitly procuring for Iraq".

In what defense experts suggested was yet another indication of a host of "front companies" in India and elsewhere, the dossier further says the machine tools and raw materials supply chain crucially remains in place for Iraq's al-Samoud and longer-range missile systems.

Even as Iraq refuted the dossier's claims as "totally baseless" and a "Zionist campaign", Blair went before a heated emergency session of the British parliament to declare, "regime change would be a wonderful thing".

Blair's dossier, which precedes Washington's promised evidence on Iraq, was greeted by boredom and yawns among sections of the pundits and politicians, who said it crucially lacked the so-called killer fact.

Commentators said the dossier, which Blair described as primarily for the British people, may do little to persuade opinion further afield, notably India. India has long said that it is opposed to military intervention in Iraq and that "regime change" is an issue for the Iraqi people.

INDIAN DIPLOMATS REACT

Responding to the allegations in Blair's dossier, Navdeep Suri, spokesman for the Indian High Commission confirmed that the case against the company, NEC, had been charged and the matter was currently sub-judice.

He said, "such actions are in violation of India's export control laws and whenever such a violation comes to the government's attention, firm action is taken". He declined to comment on what he called "speculative statements" about "other (Indian) individuals and companies" continuing to procure illicit material for Iraq.

[From the Hindustan Times, Sept. 23, 2002]

LABOUR MP STOKES KHALISTAN FIRE IN
BRITAIN

(By Sanjay Suri)

WOLVERHAMPTON, September 23.—A senior ruling Labour Party MP has supported a demand for a separate Sikh state of Khalistan if the move is made "peacefully and democratically".

Rob Marris, Labour MP, expressed his support at a meeting organized by a pro-Khalistan group in a gurdwara in Wolverhampton Sunday.

At the same meeting a senior shadow minister of the Conservative Party expressed support for Sikhs in Britain to register themselves as Sikhs and not Indians.

Rob Marris, who is treasurer of the All Party Panjabis in Britain Parliamentary Group, expressed strong support for the Sikh Agenda that the Sikh Secretariat has produced. The agenda calls for Sikhs to be registered as separate from Indians in Britain, and calls for self-determination in Punjab.

Marris addressed specifically the demand for Khalistan raised at the meeting. "That is an issue dear to your hearts I can see by looking down the hall. Those in the Indian